Lorneville Ont
Sept 22nd 1919

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Sir Robert Falconer
President Toronto University

Dear Mr President—

I have to thank you for your kind and prompt reply to my letter of Sept 18th re my son entering the Faculty of Applied Science of Toronto Univ. In fairness to my son & myself may I say we had no thought of asking you to break your rules. He did not deliberately go to Queens last year in order to enter on a lower basis, but he went there believing that the "Special provision" referred to in the Calander of that University, meant Extra Classes in Mathematics which if he were able to take along with the first year work would give him the regular standing & thus save him the large expense which another year in High School in order to get pass standing in Honor Mathematics would entail

If the standard be accepted at Queen's does not qualify him for entering the second year at Toronto I would not want him nor would he wish to enter by the door of a broken rule or as a matter of favor. Having decided to change universities because of the greater advantages Toronto offers in Mechanical Engineering (the course he has chosen to follow) and thinking the standing at Queen's might be accepted by your university, he made the application & that is the explanation of my letter to you. Had he been allowed to enter as a second year student he was quite willing to write on the honor Matriculation in the Spring if necessary as must the requirements of your university.

Again thanking you for your kind letter

Yours respectfully

(Rev) S Lawrence

September 19th, 1919

Rev. S. Lawrence,

Lornesville, Ont.

Dear Sir:

I have just received your letter of Sept. 18th and in the absence of the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science I am answering at once inasmuch as it seems to me that there is only the one course open to the University. We were quite aware that Queen's University changed its standards last year during the period of the war and accepted students into the Faculty of Applied Science on pass Mathematics. We had many applications from students who wished us to do the same, but we were unable to meet their requirements in this matter, and doubtless many of them went to Queen's University. It would be manifestly unfair to those students whom we refused were we now to give regular second year standing to students who deliberately went to Queen's last year in order to enter on a lower basis.

I am not in a position to say without consulting the Dean whether the standard that your son received at Queen's at the end of the first year would be sufficient preparation for entering the second year at Toronto in the course that he has undertaken.

Our purpose is not to keep young men out of the University but to give them as good a training as we can for their engineering

profession, and for a great many years we have found that it is essential for their success that they should enter the first year with honour standing in Mathematics.

I regret the disappointment of your son, but in justice to many others we could not break our rules. In a large University action of this kind would involve us in great difficulties.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Lorneville Ont
Sept 18th 1919

Sir Robert Falconer
President of Toronto University
Dear Sir Robert

Would it please you to give a few minutes of your time to the consideration of the following.

(1) My son W. N. Lawrence after 4 years in Guelph Collegiate Institute, passed out of that School with his Junior Matriculation & Normal School Entrance Certificates

(2) His choice of a profession was in the Faculty of Applied Science - Not having taken Honor Matriculation in Mathetics, he would not be admitted to that Faculty in Toronto University. To come another year in High School which would mean an extra tax on me of at least $400 (a minister with $1200 a year is not overburdened with money in these days of high prices) I advised him to take the advantage of the Offer of Queen's University given under the head of "Requirements for Admission" in Calendar of the Faculty of Applied Science

"For the duration of the War the Standard required in Mathetics will be Junior Matriculation. Special provision is made in first year for students entering without Honor standing"

(3) He attended the Faculty of Applied Science in Queen - Session 1918-1919 and at the Spring examination passed in every subject - 3 firsts 3 seconds & 3 thirds.

(4) Having decided on Mechanical Engineering as his Course he would like to pursue, & being advised by several who were in a position to know, to go to Toronto owing to the very much

greater opportunities of seeing practical work
, he decided to do no made application to be
admitted

(5) Here is the answer he received from the Registrar
"I am directed to inform you that you will be admitted
to the Faculty of Applied Science of this University on the
presentation of an Honor Matriculation Certificate Course
Matheteis. If you wish to take this University Course
write on Algebra, Geometry & Trigonometry at the
Supplemental Examinations. If you secure 40% on each
paper you will be admitted to the Faculty of Applied Science

(6) In his Examinations in these subject at Queens he
made away over 40% in each. He was his standing
in these subjects Solid Geometry Div. I Analytical Geometry
Div. II Algebra Div III Trigonometry Div. III

(7) To go to Toronto to write on the Supplemental Examinations
which Commence today, would have necessitated his leaving
the position he now fills which he could not
honorably do before the End of September

(8) In my reply to your Registrar I asked if he could be
admitted at the session & if absolutely necessary write
on the above subject in the Spring before being granted
his standing, should he pass successfully the
Examinations of the 2nd year. I have had no reply

9. We are asking no favors, nor is the lad asking any
easy way through, but why should he have to go through
the form of writing again on these subjects which by
actual test he has proved himself to have sufficient grasp
of, to go on with the Course he desires

(10) I know the law of your University - pass standing in three
Matheteis - but surely there is something wrong in our Educational
System which requires a lad to go through the forms
of making 40% on subjects which he has already secured
on the Examination papers of an old Established University before
Queens before he can be admitted to the senior University of
Toronto. Your Registrar said something to the lad
about "lowering your standard". I can't see how
it would be lowering your standard - The Special

provision" referred to in the Queen's Calendar had to do with Mathematics, and the Lad met the test & to my way of looking at the matter he has fairly standard now with the present standing

(1) In times like these surely our great Provincial University should be the last institution in the land to be a "stickler" for forms & put any unnecessary obstacles in the way of any youth who is looking not for something easy, but only to make the best of his opportunities: Dare - dare we are told on every hand: produce produce all you can - Had the Lad decided to comply with your Registrars advice made at the supplemental Exams it would have been at a money loss of at least - $60. I think you are a broad enough minded man to see that I have been talking Common sense. Would he be any fitter for his course as a 2nd year student That ought to be the deciding factor

(2) The Course in Queens is I believe just as good as Toronto & the only reasons why the Lad thought of changing Universities were greater opportunities Toronto offers for every practical work & getting into close touch with things. For the day when he has completed his course & also because the Cold damp climate of Kingston did not agree very well with him, but if the laws of Toronto University are like the laws of the Medes & Persians & I suppose we will have to abide by them

Yours very respectfully

(Rev) S. Lawrence